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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/675,844	09/30/2003	Marvin P. Loeb	TDYNE-295-Con.	6900

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OLSON & HIERL, LTD.
36th Floor
20 North Wacker Drive
Chicago, IL 60606

EXAMINER	
KISHORE, GOLLAMUDI S	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1615	

DATE MAILED: 07/14/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/675,844	LOEB, MARVIN P.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Gollamudi S Kishore, PhD	1615	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claims included in the prosecution are 1-40.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 20 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The parent claims 1 and 21 recite the limitation that the composition is in the liposomal form. Claims 20 and 22, which recite microspheres, lack an antecedent basis.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP 0 461 662 or Kanno (5,374,715) or MacDonald (4,532,089) or WO 95/09610 individually or in combination, further in view of Li (5,641,508.

EP discloses giant liposomes of diameter of about 10 microns containing inorganic compounds, enzymes and other pharmaceuticals. According to EP, the liposomes can be formed from phospholipids such as phosphatidylcholine and phosphatidylethanolamine. EP further teaches the inclusion of cholesterol (note the abstract, page 4, lines 34-54 and Examples). Although EP teaches generic phosphatidylcholine and phosphatidylethanolamine, it does not specify the fatty acids present in these phospholipids such as those claimed (oleic acid in dioleoyl PE and palmitic acid in dipalmitoyl PC). EP is also silent with respect to the ratios.

Kanno similarly discloses giant proteoliposomes having instant sizes. The liposomes contain proteins, enzymes and receptor proteins. According to Kanno, the liposomes can be formed from phospholipids such as phosphatidylcholine and phosphatidylethanolamine. Kanno further teaches the inclusion of cholesterol (note the abstract, col. 5, line 19 through col. 6, line 17; col. 18, lines 49-62 and examples). Although Kanno teaches generic phosphatidylcholine and phosphatidylethanolamine, it does not specify the fatty acids present in these phospholipids such as those claimed (oleic acid in dioleoyl PE and palmitic acid in dipalmitoyl PC). Kanno is also silent with respect to the ratios.

MacDonald discloses liposomes having 10-50 micron diameters for the delivery of drugs and proteins such as enzymes. The liposomes are made from bilayer forming phospholipids (note the abstract, col. 1, line 53 through col.4, line 58 and Examples). What are lacking in MacDonald are the teachings of instant specific phospholipids, cholesterol and the ratios.

WO discloses giant liposomes having sizes up to 50 microns and containing a variety of active agents, which include plant and animal cells and microorganisms, cytokines, enzymes, antigens and antibodies. The liposomes are formed using phospholipids such as phosphatidylcholines (note the abstract, pages 9, 11-12, Examples and claims). WO does not teach instant phospholipids and is also silent with respect to the ratios.

Li while disclosing liposomal compositions teaches that liposomes can be formed using phospholipids containing specific fatty acid moieties. The specific phospholipids taught by Li are dioleoyl PE and dipalmitoyl PC. Li further teaches that the amounts of the individual phospholipids can be varied and mixtures of phospholipids having preselected amounts of individual phospholipids results in liposome compositions having advantageous activity and stability of activity. The molar ratios of DPPC to DOPE taught by Li are 2:5 to 5:2 and the composition further contains cholesterol (abstract, col. 11, line 15 through col. 12, line 12, Examples and claims 6 and 7).

The use of phospholipids with specific fatty acids moieties in them, such as DPPC and DOPE in the giant liposomes of EP, Kanno or MacDonald would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, with a reasonable expectation of success since Li teaches that these also form liposomes. Varying the ratios of these lipids would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art since Li teaches that one can vary the ratios. Although the references are silent with respect to the residence time in a body fluid, the burden is upon applicant that it is different for the prior art liposomes since one would expect similar time profiles since they are made from phospholipids.

EP, MacDonald, Kanno and WO do not teach the method of administration of the liposomes. However, in the absence of showing unexpected results, it is deemed obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to choose a specific mode of administration to obtain the best possible results. The references do not teach all of the claimed active agents such as growth factors and bone marrow cells. However, in view of the generic teachings and the guidance provided in the preparation of liposomes by the prior art, it is deemed obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to encapsulate any active material including cells and growth factors and cells with the expectation of obtaining similar encapsulation.

3. Claims 1-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP 0 461 662 or Kanno (5,374,715) or MacDonald (4,532,089) or WO 95/09610 individually or in combination, in view of Li (5,641,508) as set forth above, further in combination with Ostro (American Journal of Hospital Pharmacy).

The teachings of EP, Kanno, MacDonald, WO and Li have been discussed above. As pointed out above, the references are silent with respect to the residence time in a body fluid.

Ostro teaches that half-life of smaller liposomes is in hours and that of large liposomes (MLVs) is in minutes (note page 1581, col. 1). One skilled in the art would be using the liposomes of instant sizes if the desired goal is to release the components rapidly since Ostro teaches that half life of large liposomes is in minutes.

The references of Zern (5,637,315), Nacy (5,919,459), Papahadjopoulos (6,426,086) and Thierry (6,110,490) are cited of interest.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gollamudi S Kishore, PhD whose telephone number is (571) 272-0598. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30 AM- 4 PM, alternate Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thurman K Page can be reached on (571) 272-0602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

G S Kishore

Gollamudi S Kishore, PhD
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1615

GSK